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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
April 22, 2005**

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**SECRETARY HERZFELDER ANNOUNCES \$120,000 IN GRANTS
TO THE CITY OF SOMERVILLE FOR BROWNFIELDS REDEVELOPMENT**

Environmental Affairs Secretary Ellen Roy Herzfelder today announced \$120,000 in Urban Brownfields Site Assessment Grants for the City of Somerville. These funds are designed to assist municipalities that are looking to redevelop brownfield sites, but need a solid understanding of the actual contamination that exists before proceeding with remediation.

“Brownfields redevelopment has been a centerpiece of our efforts to breathe new life, new opportunity, and new hope into Massachusetts’ urban areas,” said Secretary Herzfelder. “Somerville has set a great example for other municipalities looking to preserve open space and grow in ways that ensure a high quality of life and strong, sustainable economic growth. This city understands why it makes great environmental sense and great economic development sense to return brownfields to safe and productive use.”

In fiscal year 2005, EOEA launched the Urban Brownfields Site Assessment Program. This program offers assessment grants to municipalities that are looking to redevelop brownfield sites that fit into the overall sustainable development plans of the communities. As Massachusetts looks to promote sustainable development, it is these Brownfields that represent vital opportunities for redevelopment and growth given their proximity to public transportation, water and sewer infrastructure, and viable workforces. EOEA works with other partners at the state and federal level to support municipalities and developers in returning these properties to constructive use.

“Somerville is delighted to receive these grants, which are critical not only to cleaning up brownfield sites but also to helping us revitalize Union Square,” said Somerville Mayor Joseph Curtatone. “We believe we can make Union Square one of the hottest neighborhoods in Boston within the next several years and these grants are an important step forward in this effort.”

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Somerville will receive three grants from the Urban Brownfields Site Assessment Program for projects in the city's Union Square area, Somerville's oldest and most densely developed neighborhood:

- **30 Allen Street:** \$24,500 for the creation of open space at 30 Allen Street. This parcel was previously commercial and residential space and the first step in making it into open space is to determine how much clean-up is necessary and the probable costs of doing so. With an EPA grant already secured for the actual remediation, Somerville needs assistance with the cost of assessment, which this grant will offset.
- **Kiley Barrel Site:** \$25,000 to help with the assessment and remediation of the Kiley Barrel site. Somerville intends to develop this space into commercial property.
- **Public Safety Building:** \$70,000 towards the demolition of the Public Safety Building in Union Square and remediation of the site that remains so that it can be redeveloped into a mixed-use commercial and residential site.

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